

Linda O'Bright

March 7, 2011

Testimony for SB #1106 An Act Concerning the Establishment of the Department of Early Education and Child Development

Dear members of the Education Committee,

My name is Linda O'Bright and I run a family daycare business in my home in New Britain. I care for five children and have been caring for kids for twelve years. I am writing to ask you to support this bill - SB 1106. For years now I have not increased the fees I charge to parents because I know the state's subsidy rates have not gone up in years. Parents need help more than ever. I'd like to see these rates improved to help parents afford care.

In addition, the current system leads to long delays in getting kids approved for care. I have cared for a child since September but am still waiting for the state's approval. Unfortunately this is too often the case. With a statewide organization, providers could voice what improvements are needed and this can only help parents and improve the quality of care provided.

New Britain

860-490-0454